

Appln. No. 09/465,396  
Amdt dated Nov 8, 2005  
Reply to office action dated 07/08/2005

**Remarks**

The indication of allowability of claims 80 and 81 has been noted with appreciation. Claim 80 has been rewritten in independent form. The diffracting structure has been defined as being proximate the microphone array rather than specifically confined within it. It is not believed that such amendment affects the allowability of the claim. The applicants reserve their right to pursue other aspects of the invention in one or more continuation or divisional applications.

The non-canceled claims are dependent on claim 80 and therefore should also be allowable drawing their allowability *inter alia* from the allowability of claim 80.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard J. Mitchell  
Registration No. 34519  
Agent of Record

MARKS & CLERK  
P. O. Box 957, Station B,  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K1P 5S7  
(613) 236-9561